ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The collaboration framework is a facility for entities, such as service providers and tools, to work jointly in the intellectual endeavor of finding solutions to engineering problems. The collaboration framework incorporates protocols and means for expansion

5   and interfacing with Web services as well as discoverable, reusable work flows for solving engineering problems. Other problems for which the collaboration framework can be used include military operations, emergency responses, such as responses to an earthquake, fire, terrorism, or other disaster.

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